

TRUSTEESHIP  
COUNCILCONSEIL  
DE TUTELLET/109  
18 December 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

## SECOND SESSION

## RESOLUTIONS ON PETITIONS ADOPTED BY THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 13: PETITIONS CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORIES OF TOGOLAND UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION AND TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION.

THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL, acting under Article 87b of the Charter, in the course of its second session, in conformity with its Rules of Procedure, accepted and examined in consultation with the representatives of France and the United Kingdom as the Administering Authorities concerned, the following petitions:

1. Petition from the All Ewe Conference, Accra, Gold Coast; dated 1 April 1947 (document T/PET.6/1, T/PET.7/1).
2. Petition signed by Augustinc de Souza, Lomé, French Togoland, dated 30 June 1947 (document T/PET.6/2, T/PET.7/3), received by the United Kingdom Government on 31 July 1947. The French Government acknowledged the receipt of the petition by a letter dated 5 August 1947.
3. Petition from the All Ewe Conference, Accra, Gold Coast, dated 26 July 1947 (document T/PET.6/3, T/PET.7/4), received by the United Kingdom Government on 27 August 1947. The French Government acknowledged the receipt of the petition by a letter dated 15 September 1947.
4. Petition from the All Ewe Conference, Congo Branch, Leverville, Belgian Congo, dated 5 August 1947 (document T/PET.6/4, T/PET.7/5), received by the United Kingdom Government on 28 August 1947. The French Government acknowledged the receipt of the petition by a letter dated 9 September 1947.

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5. Petition from the All Ewe Conference, Accra, Gold Coast, dated 9 August 1947 (document T/PET.6/5, T/PET.7/6), received by the United Kingdom Government on 3 September 1947. The French Government acknowledged the receipt of the petition by a letter dated 15 September 1947.

6. Petition signed by Augustino de Souza, Lomé, French Togoland, dated 9 May 1947 (document T/PET.7/2), transmitted to the French Government on 3 June 1947.

7. Petition signed by Augustino de Souza, Lomé, French Togoland, dated 4 November 1947 (document T/PET.7/7). The French Government acknowledged the receipt of the petition by a letter dated 29 November 1947.

The Trusteeship Council took note of the statement of the representative of France that his Government, as Administering Authority, was prepared to have the petition set forth in document T/PET.7/7 considered at a shorter notice than is prescribed in Rule 86 Paragraph 1 of the Rules of Procedure for the Trusteeship Council (document T/74).

The Trusteeship Council considered the request for an oral presentation in support or elaboration of the previously submitted written petitions, embodied in paragraph 19 of the petition from the All Ewe Conference dated 9 August 1947. At its second meeting, on 20 November 1947, the Trusteeship Council decided, in accordance with Rule 80, to grant that request.

In pursuance of this action Mr. Sylvanus E. Olympio of Togoland under French administration was duly designated by the All Ewe Conference as its representative and presented to the Trusteeship Council an oral statement on behalf of the petitioners at the Council's eleventh and thirteenth meetings on 8 and 10 December 1947.

Mr. H. Laurentie and Mr. J. Mailliet were duly designated as special representatives for France, and Mr. Mead as a special representative for the United Kingdom, with regard to the examination of the petitions herein enumerated.

The Trusteeship Council agreed that since all of the petitions herein referred to involve a request for unification of the Ewe people under a single administration, they should be examined concurrently.

The Trusteeship Council considered the joint memorandum on these petitions, formulated and submitted by the Governments of France and the United Kingdom (document T/58), containing measures proposed by them with a view toward improving the economic, fiscal and cultural conditions of the Ewe people.

The Trusteeship Council noted that in order to implement the programme elaborated in this joint memorandum a standing Consultative Commission for Togoland Affairs would be established by the two Governments, which would include two representatives of the inhabitants of each of the Trust Territories.

The Trusteeship Council also took note that the representative of the All Ewe Conference considered the measures proposed in the joint memorandum to be inadequate, as not providing for a sufficient unification of the Ewe people by means of a single administration, a common political organization, economic unity and a common educational system, and that therefore, they would not solve the basic problem complained of in the petitions.

The Trusteeship Council further noted the statements by the representatives of the Administering Authorities that the measures proposed by the British and French Governments in the joint memorandum were transitional and that they would not solve the problem of the Ewes; that the immediate implementation of the programme, however, would improve the situation; and that in the future other and better arrangements of a more definite character might be contemplated by the Administering Authorities.

The Trusteeship Council is aware that the petition of the All Ewe Conference represents the wishes of the majority of the Ewe population, and observed that the representatives of the Administering Authorities have recognized the point of view of the Ewe people.

The Council also realized that the existing frontiers dividing the Ewe people have been a cause of real difficulty to them and that this division has aroused resentment on their part.

With regard to the petition set forth in document T/PET.7/7, the Council took note of the statement of the special representative of France that the congress referred to in the petition was forbidden because the French authorities thought that the views of the Ewe people concerning unification had been adequately presented in their petitions and that on the eve of the examination of these petitions by the Council it would be both useless and improper to hold a congress of this kind and for this purpose. The Council obtained his assurance that it is the policy of his Government to grant full freedom of assembly to the people of the Trust Territory and that tribal meetings and meetings of various sections of the Ewe population will not, shall not and cannot be forbidden or repressed.

THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL, therefore,

1. WELCOMES the measures jointly proposed by the Administering Authorities as representing an earnest and constructive initial effort to meet the immediate difficulties of the problem described in the petitions;

2. RECOMMENDS that the Administering Authorities concerned foster the association and co-operation of the Ewe people, and assist and encourage them to develop their capacity for self-government through free discussion among themselves and through progressively increasing opportunities for primary and secondary education;

3. INVITES the Administering Authorities concerned to present to the Council a more precise statement of the proposed measures to be undertaken with regard to the problem of co-ordination in political, economic, social and educational fields, and to submit to the Trusteeship Council at appropriate times special reports on progress made in the development of such measures;

4. INVITES the Administering Authorities concerned to consult with each other and with Ewe representatives with a view toward evolving further measures for fulfilling the wishes of the Ewe people as expressed in the petitions, and to include in the reports to the Council the developments in this regard;

5. DECIDES that the first visiting mission to the Trust Territories of Togoland under British administration and Togoland under French administration shall devote special attention to the problem set forth in the petitions and to the implementation of measures designed to cope with the problem;

6. AGREES to re-examine the problem stated in the Ewe petitions at the session at which the report of the visiting mission to the Trust Territories of Togoland under British administration and Togoland under French administration shall be considered; and

7. DIRECTS the Secretary-General to inform the Administering Authorities concerned and the petitioners of this resolution in accordance with Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure for the Trusteeship Council.

Seventeenth Meeting

15 December 1947